

am especially proud to recognize this distinct honor.

Mrs. Homendy has committed her professional career to improving safety and fighting for consumer protection. As Staff Director of the Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials Subcommittee, she was instrumental in the passage of a number of key bills and has a record of rigorous oversight of the implementation of Congressional mandates. Under her guidance, major authorization bills including the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), the Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act of 2016, the Protecting Our Infrastructure of Pipelines Enhancing Safety (PIPES) Act of 2016 contained important provisions that have demonstrably improved safety and efficiency.

In addition to her work on Capitol Hill, she advocated for the fair and safe conditions for the men and women of the nation's transportation workforce during her time with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and the AFL-CIO Transportation Trades Department. She also recently completed the Stennis Fellowship, a high honor for senior congressional staff who are dedicated to public service and improving our Congress as an institution.

Her impact on transportation safety extends to the farthest reaches of our transportation network, and I am grateful for her service and expertise. As a policymaker, I look forward to her thoughtful contribution to the National Transportation Safety Board. Based on her experience and the legacy she created as a congressional staffer, I think we can all trust that she will continue to be a strong advocate for making our transportation and infrastructure systems safer.

Beyond her impressive public service, Jennifer has also found time to become an accomplished runner and triathlete, and is a dedicated and loving mother and wife.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Jennifer Homendy on this award and on the accomplishments throughout her career. The National Transportation Safety Board is fortunate to have such an exceptional Member, and the safety of the American public will surely benefit from her expertise. I wish her the best as she begins her term.

#### HONORING JOHN MEREDITH

#### HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2018*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on behalf of the entire 6th Congressional District of Indiana, to recognize John Meredith for his contribution to our state and Wayne County.

John is a brother in Christ, and I have appreciated his prayers and encouragement over the years. I always enjoy the time we get to spend together and count him among my close friends. John is also a community leader, a successful entrepreneur, and has been very active in promoting Republican values for years. He has had an incredible impact on Wayne County and on our state.

I also want to thank John for support of my work in Congress. I wish him continued suc-

cess in all that God has planned for him and his family.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL TREASURY EMPLOYEES UNION

#### HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2018*

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Treasury Employees Union (NTEU) in celebration of their 80th anniversary.

Created in 1938, the NTEU's mission has always been to make sure federal employees are treated with respect and dignity. For 80 years the NTEU's continued advocacy has strengthened employee rights and direct support to more than 150,000 employees.

The backbone of our federal government and its agencies is our workforce, and we must take care of these dedicated employees if we want our nation to thrive. We must fight for quality healthcare plans, retirement benefits, and livable wages for employees. I am grateful for all the NTEU has done in support of our federal workforce, our state and our country.

On behalf of my constituents across New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I want to thank the National Treasury Employees Union for all they have done, and will continue to do, for our federal workforce.

#### TRIBUTE TO CRAIG BIDDLE

#### HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2018*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to former California State Senator Craig Biddle, who passed away on Sunday, September 23, 2018 in Florida. Craig served the people of California and Riverside County in many ways throughout his life and he will be deeply missed.

While growing up, Craig developed a deep passion for playing the French horn. He even spent three summers at the Interlochen Center for the Arts in Michigan and intended to spend his life as a musician. Then, while attending Occidental College, he turned his focus and attention to the law. He eventually sold his horn to pay for the first semester of law school at USC. After graduating, he moved from South Pasadena to Riverside, where he became a deputy district attorney. He served there four years, before becoming a public defender.

Craig decided to leap into politics and had his sights set on becoming district attorney. In an effort to bolster his name recognition for a future district attorney campaign, he decided to run for the California Assembly as a Republican. In an unexpected turn of events, Craig wound up winning that race and was elected to serve in the Assembly. Craig would later become the Assembly majority leader from 1969 to 1971. He then resigned to run for the state Senate. Craig won that race and represented the Riverside area in the Senate for

one term. Throughout his legislative career, Craig was an effective advocate for laws requiring the use of breathalyzer tests for suspected drunk drivers and for clean air policies that required cars to undergo smog checks. After leaving office, Craig started a law firm in Sacramento, which he ran before retiring in 1995.

Craig is survived by his wife Patricia Kelley and three children, Eric, Nancy and Lisa Biddle Canez. He had four grandchildren. I want to extend my heartfelt condolences to the Biddle family, his friends, and everyone who had the pleasure of knowing him. Although Craig may be gone, the many life-changing contributions he made in Riverside County and throughout California will have a lasting impact.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2018*

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from the chamber on Tuesday, November 13, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call votes 416 and 417.

#### HONORING GINGER BRADFORD

#### HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2018*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on behalf of the entire 6th Congressional District of Indiana, to recognize Ginger Bradford for her contribution to our state.

Ginger has served Ripley County and the City of Versailles with honor and distinction for years. It has been a pleasure to work with her, and our state is better off today because of her extraordinary leadership and service.

On a personal note, Ginger is among my favorite people that I met on this journey in Congress. She is smart, strong, honest, and loyal. With Ginger, you always know where you stand.

I will be forever grateful for her friendship and support of my work in Congress. The entire Messer family, including my wife Jennifer and our kids, have thoroughly enjoyed every moment we have spent with her and Bill. I wish her continued success in all that God has planned for her family.

#### REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF MAUREEN HAGAN

#### HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2018*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Maureen "Maggie" Hagan, 74, who died peacefully on November 6, 2018 surrounded by her family.

Maggie was a teacher in Warren City schools for 38 years, where she was an active